

**Idaho State Historical Society  
State Historic Preservation Office  
Quarterly Report  
October – December 2003**

**NATIONAL REGISTER**

- The Idaho State Historic Sites Review Board met in Moscow on October 17 to review National register of Historic Places nominations. The Board toured one of the properties - the White Spring Ranch, located near Genesee, prior to the meeting. They also had a walking tour of downtown Moscow with local Historic Commission members and visited 2 historic theaters that were recently restored and listed in the NRHP. At the meeting the Board reviewed and approved five nominations:
  - 1) White Spring Ranch, Latah County
  - 2) Baker House, Idaho County
  - 3) Schubert Theatre, Gooding County
  - 4) Wilson House, Washington County
  - 5) Chamberlain Ranger Station Historic District, Idaho County
- Tricia and Ann met with downtown merchants and property owners while in Moscow for the Review Board meeting. Tricia gave a presentation on the National Register (the local Historic Commission is pursuing a listing for the downtown area) and then Ann and Tricia spent some time answering questions and addressing concerns.
- Tricia reviewed Idaho Heritage Trust grant applications with Gaetha Pace and Fred Walters to ensure that the application proposals met National Register and Secretary of the Interior's requirements.

**SURVEY AND INVENTORY**

- A total of 270 archaeological sites were added to the state inventory. Numerous cultural resource reports documenting archaeological survey were reviewed, but the data have not been entered.
- Mary Anne worked with the Bonner County Museum to facilitate the donation of artifacts recovered from Lake Pend Oreille by local scuba divers. Items, from state land, will be given to the Idaho State Historical Society and then housed at the Bonner County Museum on long-term loan.

- Accessions to the Idaho Historic Sites Inventory (IHSI) during this second quarter of the State fiscal year 2004, total a mere 86 properties. These are a continuation of accessions of the properties recorded during the 2002 proposed Expanded North End in Boise survey. In conjunction with that survey, the approximately 2,800 black and white photographs received from Boise City are continuing to be properly identified and archived. In addition, the data entry and revision of the property records to include cross-referencing, accession numbers, and any corrections is continuing. This one survey has consumed at least 85% of the Registrar's work time during the past quarter.
- Needless to say, there is a very large backlog of property and survey accessions needing to be made from both CLG- and Section 106-related projects.
- Finally, Carrie Wakely, intern, was able to input data in the IHSI automated database for nearly 900 records.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

- For FY2004, Congress appropriated \$34.7 million dollars to the Historic Preservation Fund for the State programs. After final adjustments, the Idaho SHPO should receive approximately \$560,450, about \$14,000 more than the FY2003 apportionment. Much of this increase will be absorbed by higher health insurance costs and, we hope, a long overdue pay raise for staff after July 1, 2004.
- [The FY03 End of Year Report was completed and submitted to the National Park Service.](#)

## **CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

- Ann and Tricia met with the Bear River Heritage Area Executive Committee in Malad City to discuss historic preservation and the Certified Local Government program as tools for rural development.
- [Ann prepared contracts for the FY04 CLG contracts.](#)

## **TAX ACT PROGRAM**

- In November Don made a site visit to Pocatello to meet with a property owner for two potential tax act projects: Yellowstone Hotel and Whitman Building.
- Two applications involving the Simpson & Co. Building, Twin Falls, were processed and sent to National Park Service: Part 2 (amendment), and Part 3

(Request for Final Certification). The Part 2 amendment was approved by NPS, and the Part 3 is still pending at NPS.

## **PLANNING**

- Twenty copies of the state's comprehensive historic preservation plan were printed this quarter. Although the plan is currently available online, it was decided that several printed copies were necessary for staff use and for limited distribution to certain other agencies.
- Don, Suzi, and Tricia, along with Julie Archambeault and Dan Gard of ITD, met with Dale Gray to discuss the first draft of the historic highway bridge context study. Dale will be revising the draft per our comments during the next month. Also regarding the bridge survey project, 5,000 copies of the completed concrete bridge brochure were received by SHPO. Distribution has been as follows: 200 to ISHS Admin, 100 Museum, 100 Library/Archives, 100 to ITD. Don and Dan Gard (ITD) are developing a distribution plan for various ITD outlets across the state.
- While in Pocatello in November, Don also made a site visit to the First Congregational Church to consult with architect and owner regarding planned modifications. The church is located in a local historic district, and is also listed in the National Register.

## **REVIEW AND COMPLIANCE**

- Numerous projects have been reviewed and properties evaluated for the National Register of Historic Places. However, the information has not been entered into the databases yet. Kelley Green has been busy finishing up the data entry for FY2003.
- Suzi and Ken attended a Wings and Roots meeting at Mountain Home Air Force Base (MHAFB) in November. In December, they met with representatives from MHAFB to discuss the Air Force's preservation program.
- Suzi met with Department of Environmental Quality, the Corps of Engineers, Idaho Transportation Department, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, Idaho Power Company, and the Idaho Army National Guard on other occasions to discuss issues related to Section 106 Review.
- Suzi has been working with the Nez Perce National Historical Park on a Memorandum of Agreement associated with the property recently acquired by NPS at the Lewis and Clark site of Canoe Camp.

- Don and Suzi met with cultural resources personnel from the Department of Energy, D.C. office, to discuss INEEL programs and their effects on historic sites.
- Don made a site visit to a 106 case project in Pocatello, the Iron Triangle, in November. This area is slated for acquisition by the city and needed an evaluation of eligibility for several buildings there. It is in an historically black residential neighborhood, but it appears the physical integrity of the area precludes eligibility as a district. One potentially eligible building remains, and it will be moved as a consequence of the project.
- Mary Anne met with the Forest Supervisor and the Recreation Staff Officer from the Sawtooth NF to discuss the heritage program and ways to make it work more efficiently and in accordance with NHPA.
- Mary Anne met with personnel from the Boise NF regarding consultation on forest projects and to view the Holiday Tree at Boiling Springs GS.
- Mary Anne met with personnel from the Nez Perce NF, the Payette NF, the Salmon-Challis NF, and USFS Region 1 and 2 to work out the details for the management plan required under the Programmatic Agreement for management of the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness.
- Mary Anne, Larry, and Ken visited the Camas Reservoir with Boise NF personnel to review proposals for mitigation of adverse effects for a land exchange. They also visited a really cool site.
- Ken participated in site testing at Hells Gate State Park on October 10-11 to ground truth the radar signals in the surveyed camping units. A circular signal suspected to be a buried house floor turned out to be a “false positive.”
- On October 29-30 Ken and Travis surveyed the site of the proposed new headquarters building at Ponderosa State Park under the IDPR agreement.
- Ken and Suzi inspected the survey parcels at Bruneau State Park on November 13 in preparation for a spring survey.
- Ken attended the FERC scoping meetings for the Hells Canyon Complex on November 18, and submitted a written statement of SHPO’s concerns on December 22.
- Ken and Suzi made a field visit with the new Air Force archaeologist to the sheepherder cairns and prehistoric sites clustered in the Juniper Butte Training Range on December 22.

## EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

- In October, Suzi gave a presentation on Lewis and Clark to the Caldwell chapter of the PEO.
- Ken and Suzi attended a meeting in Portland for the upcoming Preservation Field School to be held at Harriman State Park in August-September 2004. The school will be sponsored by University of Oregon, National Park Service, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Idaho SHPO.
- Suzi participated in a workshop in Boise hosted by the National Park Service (NPS). NPS personnel from the interior northwest attended the workshop to discuss their preservation programs and future projects.
- Mary Anne met with the Passport in Time volunteers at the Boise NF lab project.
- Mary Anne, Perry Silver (IAS), and Stan McDonald (BLM) gave a presentation to the BLM leadership team about the Millennium Survey proposed by the IAS.
- Mary Anne began coordination activities for Idaho Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month. The poster for 2004, *Discovering Idaho*, ties into the National History Day theme of *Exploration, Encounter, and Exchange in History*. The poster will feature the Lewis and Clark expedition.
- Mary Anne solicited and coordinated items for the IAS auction at the annual meetings in October. Former State Archaeologist Robert Yohe kept the bidding spirited and came away contributing over a quarter of the money donated during the auction.
- On October 8-9, Ken participated in the interviews and candidate ranking for ten applicants for the vacant Transportation Archaeologist position at ITOD. Mark Münch, formerly of the Boise National Forest, was the successful candidate.
- Ken met with Robin Johnson of Idaho Power Co. on November 26 to begin planning an oral history project for Hells Canyon.
- Ken and Suzi accepted an invitation to participate in a symposium on “Archaeology and Tribal Politics” at upcoming Northwest Anthropological Conference.
- Ken accepted an invitation to organize a symposium of Plateau Prehistory at the upcoming Northwest Anthropological Conference.

- Ken finished up submissions to *Idaho Archaeologist* and *Current Research in the Pleistocene* on projects in the West Mountains and Stanley Basin.
- Ken met with Larry Kingsbury of the Payette National Forest and Mark Smith (IAS) to plan a spring field tour of sites in Indian Valley and Meadows Valley.

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

- Ken, Glenda, and Suzi met with representatives from NPS's Nez Perce National Historical Park to discuss the disposition of the State-owned archaeological collection from the National Register-listed archaeological site of Hatwai Village. NPS believes that ownership of this collection should be transferred to the Nez Perce Tribe, and that it should be curated locally at the Park. SHPO favors curating the collection at the Park through a long-term loan, but remains convinced that the State should retain ownership. To our knowledge, the State has never relinquished ownership of an archaeological collection, let alone one of this size and significance.
- The Archaeological Survey of Idaho met on October 23. Discussion included the following: the prospect of the Idaho State Natural History Museum separating from Idaho State University, the continued lack of space in the Western Repository at ISHS, plans for future publications, status of the Jerry Young collection, the recording of isolates, the Millennium Survey, and a proposal to dissolve the Idaho Advisory Council of Professional Archaeologists and establish an organization of professional archaeologists.
- The Idaho Advisory Council of Professional Archaeologists met at the Museum on October 24, with about 60 archaeologists in attendance. The main item of discussion concerned transforming the group into a professional council that would function independently of SHPO or any other agency. Dr. Matthew Seddon, the current president of the Utah Professional Archaeological Conference, answered questions about his state's experience with the "professionalization" process. A consensus to proceed was reached, and Ken agreed to prepare a proposal to include bylaws, a code of ethics, and a standards of research performance statement to the group at a spring meeting.

## PERSONNEL

- Catherine Banfill was hired to work on data-sharing projects supported by the Bureau of Land Management.

- Carrie Wakely's internship ended in December. Her services and smile will be greatly missed.

## **GIFTS AND DONATIONS**

- Thanks to Trustee Gene Place for another generous donation.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- 57<sup>th</sup> Northwest Anthropological Conference, March 25-27, Eugene, Oregon.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Historic Preservation Division Administrator

